Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 EB-08 AGRE-00 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /039 W

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R 111407Z FEB 77 FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2376 AMEMBASSY VIENNA INFO USDOC WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: NA TAGS: PFOR ECON

SUBJECT: CRITICISM FOR POOR FORAGE HARVEST

REF: SOFIA 0262

- 1. RABOTNICHESKO DELO OF FEB 10 ANNOUNCED THAT COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HAD STRONGLY CRITICIZED MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE GANCHO KRUSTEV AND VARIOUS OKRUG OFFICIALS FOR FAILURE TO FULFILL 1976 PLAN FOR FORAGE AND FEED GRAINS. DIRECTOR GENERAL SIMEON BESHKOV OF DSO FODDER PRODUCTION WAS DISMISSED AS A RESULT OF FORAGE AND FODDER SHORTFALLS.
- 2. COMMENT: ACTION CONFIRMS REPORTS THAT FODDER AND FORAGE GRAIN PRODUCTION WERE DOWN BADLY FROM PLANNED GOALS (REFTEL). ALTHOUGH WEATHER WAS NOT ENTIRELY FAVORABLE, MAJOR CAUSE OF POOR PERFORMANCE APPEARS TO BE DIFFICULTIES RESULTING FROM REORGANIZATION TO NATIONAL SCHEME OF FODDER PROCUREMENT, PROCESSING AND DISTRIBUTION. NATIONAL SCHEME WAS INAUGURATED IN 1976 AND HERALDED AS A MAJOR STEP IN SOLUTION OF ANIMAL FEED PROBLEMS. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BESHKOV WAS VERY CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF PLAN. DISMISSAL SUGGESTS THAT WEATHER FACTORS WERE SECONDARY TO BAD ORGANIZATION AND INEFFECTIVE USE OF RESOURCES MADE AVAILABLE FOR IMPLEMENTING NEW SCHEME.

3. DISMISSAL OF BESHKOV MAY CAUSE SERIOUS PROBLEMS

FOR ACTIVITIES OF AMERICAN SOY ASSOCIATION (ASA), WHICH HAD HEAVILY COURTED BESHKOV TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE IN GRAIN RESEARCH IN RETURN FOR GREATLY INCREASED PURCHASES OF US SOY PRODUCTS. EMBASSY VIENNA MAY WISH TO INFORM ALEC CERNE OF ASA OF BESKHOV'S DISMISSAL. HERZ

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Message Attributes

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